Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Cancelled.)

Claim 2. (Cancelled.)

Claim 3. (Currently Amended) A method to provide copy protection for a content, the method comprising:

~~descrambling the content delivered by a content provider using a local key;~~

~~generating the local key from a programmable user key according to an authorization code provided by the content provider; and~~

receiving ~~the~~ an authorization code via a communication channel, the communication channel being one of a return path of a cable connection, a telephone connection, and a network;

generating a local key from a programmable user key according to an authorization code provided by a content provider; and

descrambling the content delivered by the content provider using a local key.

Claim 4. (Previously Presented):

The method of Claim 3 further comprising receiving the user key from the content provider via the communication channel.

Claim 5. (Previously Presented):

The method of Claim 3 wherein the user key is provided by a master CA device having the authorization code.

Claim 6. (Previously Presented)

The method of Claim 3 wherein the user key is embedded in a medium embodying the content.

Claim 7. (Cancelled.)

Claim 8. (Cancelled.)

Claim 9. (Previously Presented):

A conditional access (CA) device comprising:

a descrambler to descramble a content delivered by a content provider using a local key;

a key generator coupled to the descrambler to generate the local key from a user key according to an authorization code provided by the content provider; and

a communication interface coupled to the key generator to receive the authorization code via a communication channel, the communication channel being one of a return path of a cable connection, a telephone connection, and a network.

Claim 10. (Previously Presented):

The CA device of Claim 9 wherein the communication interface further receives the user key from the content provider via the communication channel.

Claim 11. (Previously Presented):

The CA device of Claim 9 wherein the user key is provided by a master CA device having the authorization code.

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Claim 12. (Previously Presented):

The CA device of Claim 9 wherein the user key is embedded in a medium embodying the content.

Claim 13. (Cancelled.)

Claim 14. (Cancelled.)

Claim 15. (Previously Presented):

A computer program product comprising:

a computer usable medium having computer program code embodied therein to provide copy protection for a scrambled content, the computer program product having:

a first program code to descramble the content delivered by a content provider using a local key;

a second program code to generate the local key from a programmable user key according to an authorization code provided by the content provider; and

a third program code to receive the authorization code via a communication channel, the communication channel being one of a return path of a cable connection, a telephone connection, and a network.

Claim 16. (Previously Presented):

The computer program product of Claim 15 further comprising a fourth program code to receive the user key from the content provider via the communication channel.

Claim 17. (Previously Presented):

The computer program product of Claim 15 wherein the user key is provided by a master CA device having the authorization code.

Claim 18. (Previously Presented):

The computer program product of Claim 15 wherein the user key is embedded in a medium embodying the content.